

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING HELD BEFORE THE  
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA  
AUGUST 9, 2010**

A public hearing was held on Monday, August 9, 2010, in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 610 Main Street, Jasper, Indiana.

**Call to Order.** Presiding Officer Mayor William J. Schmitt called the hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Roll Call.**

Mayor William J. Schmitt	Present
Council members:	
John Schroeder	Present
David Prechtel	Present
Thomas Schmidt	Absent
Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter	Present
Kevin Manley	Absent
Randall Buchta	Present
Raymond Howard	Present
City Attorney Sandra Hemmerlein	Present
Clerk-Treasurer Juanita S. Boehm	Present

Clerk-Treasurer Juanita Boehm announced that in order to have a quorum for the hearing, a majority of the council members must be in attendance. Five of the seven council members were in attendance which is a majority; therefore, there was a quorum for the hearing.

**Pledge.** Mayor Schmitt then invited those in attendance to join him in reciting the pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Notice.** Mayor Schmitt read the following notice:

On or about August 13, 2010, the City of Jasper intends to submit a proposal to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs for a construction grant from the Community Focus Fund of the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant program. This program is funded by Title 1 of the Federal Housing and Urban Development Act of 1974, as amended. These funds are to be used for a community development project for wastewater improvements. The total amount of CDBG funds to be requested is estimated to be \$600,000. The amount of CDBG funds proposed to be used for activities that will benefit low and moderate income persons shall be at least 51% or \$306,000. The Applicant also proposes to expend an estimated \$187,000 in non-CDBG funds on the project. These non-CDBG funds will be derived from the following sources: Wastewater Utility. Additionally the city of Jasper will utilize all available Program Income Funds towards this project estimated at \$3,500.

There will be a public hearing regarding the submission of this proposal. The public hearing will be on Monday, August 9, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. (EDT) in the Jasper City Hall, 610 Main Street, Jasper, IN 47546. This public hearing is to provide citizens an

opportunity to express their views on the proposed federally funded CDBG wastewater improvement project.

Persons with disabilities or non-English speaking persons who wish to attend the public hearing and need assistance should contact Lisa Gehlhausen, Executive Director, at the offices of Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission, 221 E. First Street, Ferdinand, Indiana (812) 367-8455 no later than Thursday, July 29, 2010. Every effort will be made to make reasonable accommodations.

Interested citizens are invited to provide comments regarding these issues either at the public hearing or by prior written statement. Persons wishing to provide written comment regarding the project should submit them to Ms. Gehlhausen by August 9, 2010. This project will result in no displacement of any persons or businesses. The Community Focus Fund proposal will be available for review and comment August 10, 2010 at the offices of Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission, 221 E. First Street, Ferdinand, Indiana. Information concerning the proposed project may be obtained from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday at the offices of Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission.

Mayor Schmitt then said this notice appeared in the Herald on July 22, 2010. A notice was also posted at City Hall and faxed to the news media.

Mayor Schmitt asked Lisa Gehlhausen, Executive Director of Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission, if anybody asked for any help regarding the disabilities? Lisa Gehlhausen replied “No, no one called seeking assistance. “

Lisa Gehlhausen, Executive Director of Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission, said “As you recall on July 2 an application was submitted to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs, Disaster Recovery fund to improve the wastewater system on the north side of the City of Jasper. We will not hear whether the city will be awarded those funds until September 24, 2010. There’s a program that’s running parallel to the Disaster Recovery 2 program called Community Focus Fund. The Disaster Recovery project the city requested a grant of \$650,000 with a local match of \$136,365 totaling \$786,365. The total project cost did not change, however when you seek Community Focus Funds the maximum the city can ask for is \$600,000. The difference between the two programs is an increase of local funds of \$50,000. Within the CFF you’re asking for a \$600,000 grant with your match being \$186,365. Because this project is important to the City, what we are trying to do is improve your chances of fundability. The DR2 program received about 115 water/wastewater applications with 30 million dollars available, so if everyone is asking for nearly one million dollars the odds are probably  $\frac{3}{4}$  of those people applying are going to be unhappy and  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the people are satisfied and winners. The funding is competitive and we hope the City can be awarded through one of the programs.

The CFF program divides the process into two steps (the proposal and the application). Whereas the Disaster Recovery has the application with one public hearing, the CFF program has two public hearings one before the proposal and one before the application. The proposal is due August 13 and the application for the CFF is due October 22, 2010. The proposal lets the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs know that you want to submit an application with

this project. Awards are announced on the CFF December 10. If the DR2 is successfully awarded the City will not be submitting a CFF application. At the application stage we will be required to submit a resolution. In the proposal stage I will need the Mayor's signature saying yes you do want to submit the proposal. To reiterate it's the same project just two different grant sources that are running parallel and we didn't want the City to miss the opportunity.

Wastewater Manager Ed Hollinden described the project and had a map presentation to show the areas where they want to reline and replace the sanitary sewers. He also had large maps of the project area displayed on the wall for interested persons to examine. Hollinden explained that a majority of the sewer lines will be relined and some of it will be replaced. What we are going to do is reline in the Skyline Subdivision and Fairway Park. The maps are color coded (the yellow we are going to reline; all the blue we are going to replace). The orange lines have been relined recently with local funds already.

Ed Hollinden said the City tries to reline about \$100,000.00 worth of lines each year. Gerald "Bud" Hauerperger said "At that rate it would take more than eight years to do this particular area."

Council member Ray Howard asked what the responsibilities of the homeowners are? Ed Hollinden responded that "The homeowner will be notified when the actual saddle and connection will occur and that they may not be able to flush their toilet for a few hours, but other than that I expect no homeowner inconvenience. While in the area and the pipe is open, the homeowner may want their private line on video camera to check for problems. If problems are identified, the homeowner will be required to fix the problem at their cost. The homeowner has the option of having their private line on video camera."

City Attorney Sandy Hemmerlein mentioned that "Chad Hurm provided the estimates and will be providing the engineering services on the project." Lisa Gehlhausen mentioned that the project will require federal Davis-Bacon wage rate be adhered to and if funded, Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission will assist the City in administering the project."

Mayor Schmitt then asked for public comments. No comments from the public were received.

Gehlhausen explained the time frame for the project. She said from the time the grant is awarded the City has eighteen months to complete the project.

Mayor Schmitt again asked for public comments. No more comments were received.

**Other information.** A comprehensive plan training session is tentatively set for August 18, 2010 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Thereafter, a **motion** was made by Council member David Prechtel and seconded by Council member Ambrose 'Butch' Schitter to close the public hearing. The motion carried 5-0 and the hearing closed at 6:30 p.m.

The minutes were hereby approved \_\_\_\_ with   X   without corrections or clarification this 18<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2010.

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**Mayor William J. Schmitt**  
**Presiding Officer**

**Attest:**

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**Juanita S. Boehm, Clerk-Treasurer**

Margaret A. Kress, Recording Secretary  
with assistance from Lisa Gehlhausen